Friday, *the* *6th August 1943* / *21st Karkadagam 1118*

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at half past eleven of the clock with the Hon'ble the President (A. F. W. DIXON Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.) in the Chair.

Messrs. T. P. Poulose, C. Kunhan Namboodiripad, and Khan Sahib Ismail Haji Essa Sait were absent.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ANTI-MALARIAL MEASURES

134. Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)* : Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) what is the work that is rendered for preventing the growth and spread of malaria ;

(*b*) which are the areas where anti-malarial work is done ;

(*c*) what amount of work is done in each area ;

(*d*) which is the personnel that does the work ;

(*e*) whether there is an expert (or experts) in anti-malarial work ;

(*f*) if so, what is his or their qualifications ;

(*g*) whether, if there are none, the Government will depute an energetic young medical man for special training ;

(*h*) whether Government will perpare a scheme for regular and systematic progressive anti-malarial work ;

(*i*) whether Government have any statistics of the incidence of malaria in the State, and

(*j*) if not, will Government collect the statistics ;

(*k*) whether it is not a fact that this year 1118 the incidence of malaria was greater than before ;

(*l*) whether Government have enough quinine to supply Government Hospitals, as well as to meet private demand; if so, for how long ?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development)* : (*a*) Anti-malarial measures are being carried out by the Public Health Department in Pattancheri and Nanniode, two endemic areas in Chittur Taluk and also in the Nelliampathies. The measures in Pattancheri and Nanniode are mainly directed against mosquito breeding places which are systematically Parisgreened. In the Nelliampathies, the living quarters are sprayed with Pyrethrum extract emulsion to kill adult mosquitos. Within Estates themselves the Estate authorities are responsible for the work. Government grant is being paid to the Malapiparai Estate.

Anti-malarial work is also done by the Ayurvedic Department. The Vaidyan periodically visits malarial tracts and distributes medicines to the patients.

(*b*) Pattancheri, Nanniode and the Nelliampathies.

(*c*) In Pattancheri and Nanniode the operations are carried out for four months from first Vrischigam and at the Nelliampathies for six months from 15th December every year.

(*d*) One supervisor and five coolies for Pattancheri and Nanniode and one supervisor and seven coolies for the Nelliampathies. Their work is periodically supervised by the Medical Officer for Epidemics.

(*e*) Yes. The Medical Officer for Epidemics.

(*f*) L. M. & S., and D. P. H. (Calcutta) which includes training in prevention and control of malaria also.

(*g*) No answer is required in view of answer to sub-division (5).

(*h*) Will be considered.

(*i*) No.

(*j*) Will be considered.

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(*k*) There is some increase in the incidence of malaria this year.

(*l*) No. The available quinine is barely sufficient to meet in full the demands of all hospitals and dispensaries of the State.

Mr. President: Perhaps the Hon'ble Member is not putting the question.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* I will put questions only to the transferred half in future.

Without going into the ramifications of this question, may I ask whether the Government will be pleased to consult every year experienced planters, like Messrs. Walmesley and Norman in the matter of antimalarial work?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* May I know what exactly is the price of quinine now?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* The Government of India is supplying us at the rate of Rs. 25 per pound. In the open market it is above Rs. 300.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will the Government be pleased to consider the question of giving quinine to private medical practitioners in the Malarial areas?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* It is extremely difficult for the Government to undertake it, because it is very costly and we are not getting sufficient quantity for our own needs. But they could buy the drug from outside. It is available in the market.

Mr. President: The difficulty is what we are now getting from the Government is not sufficient for our own purposes. The Government of India supply is very limited and a good deal of it is required in Assam where a large number of persons is working and Hon'ble Members know that it is a malarial tract.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* In view of the fact that malaria breaks out in the plains as distinct from the Hills, from Chingam onwards to which month we are going, will the Government be pleased to take vigorous action in the matter of supplies of quinine.

Mr. H. J. Walmesley *(Nominated):* The Government of India are making special allotments of quinine to planters in malarial districts and in the case of rubber plantations. If this matter is brought to the notice of the Secretary to the Indian Rubber Control Committee I am sure there will be no difficulty at all to get quinine. I am sure it will bring an immediate supply.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* I am not speaking about rubber plantations. I am asking this question about villagers in places like Pattikkad and Pazhayannur who are not labourers in rubber plantations.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Does the Hon'ble Member want to carry out such works as we are doing in Pattancheri and Nanniode?

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* In consultation with the people who are interested in the scheme.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* It is a very big scheme.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Does the Hon'ble Member mean that the quinine should be distributed for anti-malarial work? If it is so, it is not done now-a-days.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Can you not spare some quinine to the private medical practitioners?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* For treatment.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur Rural):* Has the Government prescribed any qualification for these supervisors?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* They are given instructions by the epidemic officers. It is only this spraying work.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* May I know whether there is any remedy under the Ayurvedic treatment for malaria?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* It seems there is a pill which the Ayurvedic experts say is a specific for Malaria.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* Has it been tried anywhere in our State?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* What is the result?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* It has been found to be good.

Mr. A. L. Antony *(Irinjalakkuda):* Then why can't you introduce that also since quinine is not available.

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Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* We are doing it. But it depends upon the belief of the patient. Some may prefer quinine to these pills.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* How is the work done in Malakkippara?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* I think a grant of Rs. 500 is paid.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* In Nelliampathies.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* It is answered here.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* May I know the machinery by which you do this.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Through the Public Health Department. A supervisor and coolies are appointed. The same work as is being done in Chittur.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Is the amount spent in the Nelliampathies the same every year?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* I want notice.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* In view of the increased cost of quinine, a proportionate increase in the allotment may be effected.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* I do not think there is any dearth of money now. Because we have made provisions for 6 coolies and one supervisor and we are supplying them with Pyrothram extract.

RECRUITMENT OF DISTRICT JUDGES, ETC.

135. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) what is the number of direct recruitments to the post of District Judges and additional District Judges during the last 5 years;

(*b*) what is the number of promotions from the Judiciary to the posts in (*a*) during the period in (*a*)?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) 1.

(*b*) 4.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know who is the gentleman referred to in the answer to sub-division (a).

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu.

PRACTICE OF OBTAINING FEES FOR AFFIDAVITS

136. Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will Government be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the practice of taking 4 annas for every affidavit certified by Head clerks, etc., if so, will Government stop the practice?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Government are not aware of such a practice.

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION

137. Mr. K. R. Achyutan *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether their attention has been drawn to the first leader published in the "Sahodaran" Newspaper in its issue, dated the 8th May 1943, in which it has been proved by quoting figures as given in Appendix VI of Cochin Administration Report of 1117, that Ezhuvas and Muslims have got only nominal representation in the higher grades of Government Service;

(*b*) what steps Government propose to take in order to remove the inequality of representation referred to above?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The inequalities pointed out are not such as could be remedied all on a sudden.

Mr. K. R. Achyutan *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* Is it not a fact that even now appointments in the higher grade go to over-represented communities?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* That is a difficult question to answer. If any particular appointment is mentioned then I may be able to answer.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I know whether efficiency is not taken as a serious test?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Yes.

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